

Atchison and Railroads.

The Atchison Champion replies to our last week's railroad article, and pleads the statute of limitations on the Henderson Amendment business. We don't blame it for wanting that protection. We don't forget it, but we don't understand the Champion's dislike to hearing of his memory upon it again; for we were a witness to that portion of the fight which occurred in our State Legislature, while the editor of the Champion was away.

In the beginning of the year 1862, when Congress was granting subsidies to railroads, one was included running west from a point opposite St. Joseph. It was thought, at that time, that this road would be one of the main lines, if not the principal line, running through the Pacific, and so it would have been, had it not been discovered by fraud. Senator Pomeroy was induced by an amendment that it run west from St. Joseph, and it took it away from its intended direction.

But Pomeroy solemnly asserted that it would not—that Atchison was due west from St. Joseph, and the course of the road would not be changed a particle—that all the maps were correct in this particular, but he had a correct map, showing the true situation. He produced a map, manufactured by Atchison men for the occasion, in which the course of the Missouri River from St. Joseph was altered, making Atchison lie due west from St. Joseph. Senator Lowe, as pre-arranged, arose and as solemnly corroborated Pomeroy's statement. This is a matter of record, as will be found in the Congressional Globe of that session.

The road was actually laid and designed for it. Senator Henderson, of Missouri, knew this was a fraud, but he was powerless to prevent it. The utmost he could accomplish, was to secure the passage of an amendment leaving it to the decision of the Kansas Legislature whether the road should make Atchison a point or not; for it was a part of the fraud, that the road should strike the Kansas River within one hundred miles west of the Missouri. The fight came up in the Legislature, and was a hot one. Atchison secured the co-operation of Topeka, and all who came under the influence of the Capital, by a solemn promise that Topeka should be the point at which the road should strike the Kansas River—in fact, that it was the only practicable point at which the connection could be made within the prescribed one hundred miles. Leavenworth, great lumina, with twice the representative strength of Atchison, was bamboozled, as usual, into supporting the scheme of Atchison. We believe the condition of the sale was, that Atchison should then turn in and help steal the 500,000 acres of State lands, to aid in building certain bridges for the benefit of Leavenworth. Well, the Henderson Amendment was scooped, and the result is known. Topeka was swindled out of the railroad. Leavenworth failed on her bridge scheme, and instead of a through line of rail, she would be benefited, and not Atchison. A road running east through Kansas, is compelled to strike the State of Missouri at some point. Then, if the entire Northern tier would be fitted up by the road, why not strike the river at St. Joseph as well as at any other point? It may be claimed that the Central Branch touches most of the Counties named; but it touches them in a way that would be of very little benefit, even were the Central Branch a good road.

We repeat, we want to see Atchison get all that justly belongs to her; but we are tired of the grasping selfishness that prompts her to take what belongs to others. In her estimation, everything is against the interests of Kansas, and tends to bring ruin upon the State. She goes to benefit Atchison. She regards all railroads that touch her as hers; and upon the completion of every new road, built by Atchison and other people's money, her rejoicing is not that her neighbors have secured railroad advantages, but that another section of country has been rendered tributary to Atchison.

As it is with railroads, so it is in politics. Atchison grasps for all the offices; and knowing she cannot get them directly, she scatters her hungry brood over the State, to put them in as representatives of other localities. Our State has remained untried for Congressmen for two years, and as a consequence, our present chain lightning delegation were untried. In Congress, solely because Atchison could not force through an appointment cutting out every other town of consequence from the Northern District, whereby she, being the commercial metropolis, might control the District, and secure the member every time; and for this purpose, they have managed to keep "our able and efficient State Senator" in the Chairmanship of the Appropriation Committee for two years past, which he is slow as well as a tadpole in for playing a Jewish trick.

We hope the Champion understands us now. We rejoice in the prosperity of a friend, but we hate the blandness to have him steal our hat and breeches to cut a swell in, while we stand shivering in our shirt-tail.

☞ The farmers have a chance to express themselves on a question that comes home to them, and which will test their spirit of impartiality. Within the past year or two, a test has been attached to the State Treasury for the benefit of the State Agricultural Society, at which it seeks with the greediness of a half-starved calf.

The Secretary of the Society has just removed to Topeka, to become a permanent fixture upon the State. Within the past few days, the sum of \$18,000 has been drawn out of the State Treasury, for printing for the Agricultural Society alone. The bulk of this amount was for printing the book reports of the Society, a mass of trash that is of no more use or benefit to the farmers or anybody else in Kansas, than a ton or two of Chinese fire-cracker labels would be to a circulating library.

☞ The Republican is tickled with the idea that Capt. Lardner was rubbing us, in the Farmers' Convention, when he spoke of men voting for Pomeroy and Caldwell for Senators. We believe he made direct allusion to Judge Price in the Pomeroy matter; and it is the prevalent belief that in the Caldwell matter, he, Kennedy and Mowry especially in his eye, they delegates to the Convention, and having voted against him for President. If it places the Republicans to see a slipshod captain on the heads of Price, Kennedy and Mowry, in the hope that a few drops may splash on us, we shall not attempt to deprive it of this source of enjoyment.

☞ The idea of starting a newspaper of mammoth size in a small country town, is somewhat like the war tactics of the Chinese; who try to frighten their enemies with immense gun that they can neither handle nor fire, and which more frequently damage themselves than their enemies.

White Cloud Leader.
We have received a copy of a nine-column paper, patent under the above title—editorial, rather more pretensions one of Kansas Leader, published at White Cloud, by Yare & Overholt. Any favorable notice we may have been disposed to give it, is of course precluded by the fact that it contains several gratuitous attacks upon ourself—unprovoked, uncalled for, and unjust—and concludes one of these offensive items with, "Let us have peace."

Notwithstanding the personal assurance of the editor of the Leader, voluntarily made several weeks ago, that he desired to be upon friendly relations with us, we are not surprised at its course. We have heard, for some time, that one of its principal objects was to help in the great work of using us up. It has been started for an object, and must accomplish its mission, then die. As its destiny is evidently to be the special month-piece of men whose hatred of us overhauls all else, it is well enough that it holds its true colors at the outset.

Now, we emphatically say, that the editor of the Leader has not seen and cannot find in our paper, a single word, allusion or innuendo directed against himself or his paper, for nothing of the kind has ever been written or printed by us. It is coming from a nice place, and we cannot write upon any general subject, and that, too, in answer to a paper in a distant part of the State, without some touchy and jealous minded person sneering and torturing it into an innuendo against himself, and thereupon abusing us for it. To render the Leader man's attack still more contemptible and ridiculous, it is still necessary to call attention to the fact, that the article which it thinks hurts it, alluded almost wholly to transactions that occurred before we ever heard of him, and while he was yet a laughing-stock on the pages of the Easterners of Grand River. By "his attention was called to them." Ay, there's the nub of it—his attention was called to them.

We have no doubt that the same man who called his attention to them, was being called his attention to them; and no matter what we may say or do, they will call his attention to the fact that it is all wrong. Any man with common perception ought to be able to comprehend the whole game, the very first half hour.

Since the editor of the Leader talks so fluently about our course, and our motives for the same, we wish to ask him a few questions. How did he find out that we regretted getting that field? How much patronage did we receive from the men who are so quick in calling his attention to our "squib"? What friends have we gone back on? Was it men whom we had always favored and spoken well of, but who, the moment we took our part, calmly and without giving out a word, turned traitors, and shamelessly and shamefully slandering and abusing us, and doing their utmost to break us down? Come, who were those loving friends whom we have deceived? Was it a lazy lout who was kicked out of office for indolence and incompetence, and who snored on for not interfering to fasten him upon the public? Was it a man who trumped up against citizens, and compelled them to pay, hundreds of dollars, when he had not a just claim for them, and whose bitter hatred we incurred for simply hinting that it was an imposition upon the tax-payers? Was it a man who committed perjury to save a few dollars of taxes, and who takes us because he is indistinctly feels that we look upon him as a scoundrel? Was it a man who swindled an old friend out of the money advanced him to get a start in business, and save him from starvation? Was it a man who takes the last five cents from a degraded, bloated wretch, whose family is suffering for the want of it? Was it a man so steeped in vice and rascality that he carries a brimstone smell around with him, and for neglecting to expose whom, we often encountered the displeasure of our friends? Was it a man who does not hesitate to betray and slander a friend, if he can gain a point by it, and who, by an unscrupulous course in a series of rascalities, has become so bold that he has attempted to rob God Almighty? Is it Tom, Dick or Harry, who has no reason in the world to assign, except that we may have favored them on some occasion, and they neglected to pay us in any other way?

But enough of this. When the editor of the Leader has done as much as we have to practically illustrate his faith in and good will for the town, he may then condemn us before the people of White Cloud. When he has expended all his means in improving the town with property which not only will not sell, but which he cannot rent for enough to pay the tax on it, he may with a good grace advise others how to build up the town. When he has expended fifteen of the best years of his life, or one-half, or one-fifth, or one-tenth that many years, in incessant labor through gloomy as well as prosperous days, to keep the interests of the town before the world, he may be entitled to lecture on about going back on White Cloud. If he thinks greenbacks grow on the bushes up there, and that he can get rich by publishing a blank sheet, he is willing to let them try it. But he may mark down one thing: Whenever the Leader refuses longer to be led by the men who have taken charge of him, and determines to run his paper for the town, instead of that clique, he will find that tender interest in his welfare suddenly vanish, and will be the recipient of the style of compliments he every day had been receiving upon it.

Having "called his attention" to a few facts, he has now at liberty to open his slanders, and let the whole outside empty their slops in this direction.

LOWE'S MOUTH OPENED.—Lowe has at last spoken. He took the "dignified silence" dodge until the clamor became so great that he had to say something. He sends us a copy of the Lawrence Journal under his frank, in which he has a card denying, flatly and entirely, that he drew that grocery bill, or any part of it. He says the charge was so preposterous that he did not consider it worth answering. But the honor which is imputed to us, of having been the first paper in the State to publish his itemized account, does not belong to us, although most of the papers copied it from the Chief, with our remarks thereon.

The issue is now reduced to a question of veracity between Mr. Lowe and the Washington correspondent of the New York Sun. If the correspondent does not make good his statement, he must stand convicted of slander.

So far, so good. Mr. Lowe emphatically denies the \$10,000 steal, but he is singularly silent as to the charge of the \$5,000 salary steal, which was as much of a swindle as the grocery bill, and of greater magnitude. Is that too poor a question to be worthy of attention? Come, Mr. Lowe, let us have your indignant and emphatic denial of that.

A man who will steal, will lie; and unless you prove your innocence of the salary steal, there will be ground to doubt whether you have told the truth about the invoice of groceries.

☞ C. T. Whitehall, of Seneca, recently losing appeal of the Central Branch lands, has had business that called him away in a hurry, and it has been discovered that he has been practicing a long series of gross frauds upon those who purchased lands. He has been practicing a long series of gross frauds upon those who purchased lands. He has been practicing a long series of gross frauds upon those who purchased lands.

☞ The Republican calls us a hypocrite. From two such Christians as we on edit the Republican, the charge is terrible. As you may, there is something in the very act of an honest, upright, pure life, that fairly wins a poor sinful wretch. We feel our unworthiness!

☞ The Atchison Globe copyrights its editorial. This explains why other papers so seldom copy from the Globe.

"Old Rhoda" Speaks.
No, we beg Rhoda's pardon—she also could do more credit to herself. Martin B. Bowers devotes half a column in last week's Republican to her benefit. We will not use the exclamation of the legal gentleman in this town, when he reads the communication, for it would sound badly—but Martin, let that production wait till—thinner than your sugar-corn, or the clothing of that old woman, after you had collected her hotel bill in woolen goods!

Now, all this hullabaloo by Martin, is because, in the prosecution of her determination to give all the news, we stated that Bowers had been sued by the Board of School District No. 8, in Brown County, for money unaccounted for by him, while Treasurer of the District. He admits the truth of this, in his communication, yet avows because we did not give his personal and private reasons for not settling. We have stated that he was sued; that the petition charged defalcation; that he confessed the facts as set forth in the petition; that judgment was rendered against him for principal and interest, amounting to something over \$500; and that he claimed that the money had been drawn by another person, as his agent, and used by that person. Now, we stated that these things, which were all facts. Considering the special attention that Mr. Bowers has given as for some months past, he had no right to expect that we would go to hunting up excuses for his conduct. We knew that the School Board demanded settlement of him months ago, but could not get it until they sued him. One reason that he gave for not settling was, that he wanted to give us an opportunity to charge him with being a defaulter, so that he could prosecute us. Yet the petition filed against him contained that very charge, and he confessed the charge! Had we desired to concern ourselves much about his transactions as Secretary of the District, we could have had the money he had received from the first day of his term, and when his successor was elected did not pay it over, but gave his note for the amount, which was not paid for more than a year afterwards.

Had we desired to enter into his peculiar tricks, we might have given a history of his system of building churches and then trying to swindle the congregation out of them; of his charging up against them certain items for paints, etc., which he had never paid, and then when payment was demanded of him, attempted to make the church pay for it a second time. But that may make an interesting chapter for the future.

We pass over his little allusion to selling our vote for \$5,000 or \$7,000, as this is the first time we have ever heard such a thing mentioned, and we conclude that Bowers is joking; but we come to his last insinuation about our transactions as Treasurer of School District 48, as he says, but we suppose he means No. 43. This is a piece with a petition which he circulated a few days ago, and obtained twelve signatures, some of whom never paid a cent of taxes in their lives, some of whom signed it with a proviso neutralizing the effect of the signature, and most of whom were personal enemies of the old School Board. We presume the petition was intended for our benefit, as well as that of the Board that recently went out; and whenever we have declined to go, it has courtedly abused us for it. Whatever we have advocated or opposed, the Republican has treated us fairly in it, and courtedly imputed corrupt or improper motives for our course; and when we have been wrong, we have been so, and we have made for it. The week we came here, the Republican follows held us so high in esteem, that they hired an editor especially to fight us, and kept provoking a fight all Summer, although we persistently kept out of it. Every time that we have mentioned or alluded to the Republican since, has been the signal for abuse and slurs in return. It has repeatedly spoken of us in the courteous terms of bribery, perjury, theft, swindling, and innumerable similar pet names. When we have had occasion to go away for any purpose, the Republican has courtedly thrown dirt after us; and whenever we have declined to go, it has courtedly abused us for it. 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